

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Please cancel claim 9 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter.

Please amend claims 1-8, 11-18, and 20-22 as follows. A marked up copy of the claims as amended is submitted herewith in the Appendix.

1. An apparatus for stabilizing a pair of parallel coaxial lines within a tower, with a topmost portion of each coaxial line being fixed to the tower, and a lower end of each coaxial line free to move vertically relative to the tower, the apparatus comprising:

an expandable element disposed in-line along a first portion of the first one of the pair of coaxial lines; and

a frame rigidly tying together the pair of coaxial lines at a second portion of each one of the pair of coaxial lines below the expandable element of the first one of the pair of coaxial lines.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second portions of the pair of coaxial lines tied together each comprise an elbow.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the frame ties together the second portions of the pair of coaxial lines so that they are retained in a common horizontal plane.

4. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the frame ties together the elbows of the pair of coaxial lines so that they are retained in a common horizontal plane.

5. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the frame includes a cross member that is strapped to each of the second portions of the pair of coaxial lines.

6. An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the frame includes a cross member that is strapped to each of the elbows of the pair of coaxial lines.

7. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the frame further includes a stabilization assembly that surrounds the first coaxial line at a position above the expandable element thereof and permits vertical travel of the first coaxial line relative to the frame at the surrounded position, while inhibiting lateral movement of the first coaxial line at that position relative to the frame, thereby permitting the expandable element to expand and contract vertically while inhibiting axial misalignment of the line above and below the expandable element of the first coaxial line.

8. An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a multiplicity of spring hangers, each of which provides a portion of the suspension of one of the pair of coaxial lines from the tower at one of a multiplicity of locations along the vertical extent of the tower, whereby said spring hangers permit vertical travel of the coaxial line relative to the tower, and inhibit lateral movement of the coaxial line relative to the tower.

11. An apparatus for stabilizing a pair of parallel coaxial lines for an antenna having a tower, with a topmost portion of each of the pair of coaxial lines being fixed to the tower, and a

lower end of each of the pair of coaxial lines free to move vertically relative to the tower, the apparatus comprising:

expansion means disposed in-line along a first portion of the first one of the pair of coaxial lines; and

tying means for rigidly tying together the pair of coaxial lines at a second portion of each of the pair of lines below the expansion means.

12. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the second portions of the pair of coaxial lines tied together each comprise an elbow.

13. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the tying means ties together the second portions of the pair of coaxial lines so that they are retained in a common horizontal plane.

14. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the tying means ties together the elbows comprising the second portions of the pair of coaxial lines so that they are retained in a common horizontal plane.

15. An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the tying means include a cross member that is strapped to each of the second portions of the pair of coaxial lines.

16. An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the tying means includes a cross member that is strapped to each of the second portions of the respective elbows of the pair of coaxial lines.

17. An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the tying means further includes a stabilization assembly that surrounds the first one of the pair of coaxial lines at a position above the expansion means and permits vertical travel of the first one of the pair of coaxial lines relative to the tying means at the surrounded position, but inhibits lateral movement of the first one of the pair of coaxial lines at that position relative to the tying means, thereby permitting the expansion means to expand and contract vertically, while inhibiting axial misalignment of the first one of the pair of coaxial lines above and below the expansion means.

18. An apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising suspension means for distributed weight-bearing of the elements comprising the pair of coaxial lines from the tower, whereby the suspension from a multiplicity of locations along the vertical dimensions of the tower permits vertical travel of the individual coaxial lines relative to the tower, but inhibits lateral movement of each of the pair of coaxial lines relative to the tower.

20. A method for stabilizing a pair of parallel coaxial lines for an antenna having a tower, with an upper portion of each of a pair of coaxial lines being fixedly suspended from the tower, and a lower end of each of the pair of coaxial lines free to move vertically relative to the tower, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable element in-line at a location between the upper portion and the lower end of the first of the pair of coaxial lines; and

holding the lower ends of the pair of coaxial lines together at a relative horizontal height with each other.

21. A method according to claim 20, further comprising the steps of permitting the lower ends of the pair of coaxial lines to move vertically relative to the tower, while simultaneously holding the lower ends of the pair of coaxial lines at the same height as each other.

22. A method according to claim 20, wherein the portions of the pair of coaxial lines tied together each comprise an elbow.
